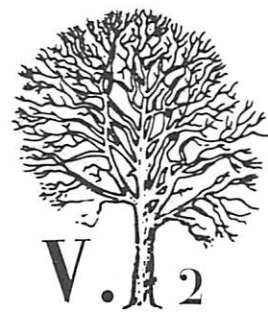


ACORN



The Architectural Conservancy of Ontario

A society incorporated in 1933 for the preservation of the best examples of the architecture of the province, and for the protection of its places of natural beauty.

President:	W. Moffet
Immediate Past President:	Peter John Stokes
Senior Vice-President.	A. K. Sculthorpe
2nd Vice-President:	H. Walker
3rd Vice-President:	P. Rosebrugh
Treasurer:	J. Reckitt
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ACORN V - 2

SUMMER 1980

The Architectural Conservancy of Ontario R Newsletter

EDITORIAL STAFF

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Contributing Editor:	Peter John Stokes

The Cover

THE BARNUM HOUSE 1817

The plaque at the site reads:

"This house, completed in 1817, was built by Eliakim Barnum (1784-1877). He came to Upper Canada from Vermont in 1808, purchased a log house standing on this site, and established a milling and distilling business. A Justice of the Peace for many years, he also served as an officer in the 3rd Northumberland Regiment of Militia and ultimately became its colonel. During the War of 1812, the log house was accidentally burned down by British troops and Barnum began construction of the present building, one of the Province's finest remaining examples of domestic Georgian architecture."

The Barnum House, the signature, as it were, of the Architectural Conservancy of Ontario, was the organization's first acquisition and the only restoration it ever undertook as its own project. The building now serves as a local museum. Concerns for its future and the need to consider preservation over forty years after that first undertaking prompted a recent study which explored the problems and suggested possibilities for the treatment and continued use of the building. The study was commissioned by the Ontario Heritage Foundation and completed by the ACO's Past President.

Photo by PJS, May, 1980.

Courtesy of The Ontario Heritage Foundation

EDITORIAL

We are happy to give a very cordial welcome to the new branch, The North Waterloo Region, and to its editor, Wendy Collishaw.

* * * * *

In the IV - 3 ACORN cover picture by Peter John Stokes, he shows us pylons stalking across our countryside, and he notes that perhaps the sight is the popular perspective of conservation, Ontario Style. But Ontario is not the only offender. In France this summer we noticed pylons in every conceivable style known to the French electrical people march and counter march across the fields, wiring up the sky. What a price to pay for progress!

* * * * *

The death of Lenah Field Fisher was sad news for her many friends. She was Cobourg's only member of the Order of Canada and a Governor of Sir Sanford Fleming College. A former deputy reeve of Cobourg, she was also prominent in many community activities. The packed St. Peter's church in Cobourg where her funeral was held gave testimony to the regard in which she was held.

* * * * *

The Annual General Meeting is coming up soon, and we look forward to meeting all the ACORN editors at that time.

THE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Conservationists must be a dedicated group. It requires a great deal of dedication to continue on in the face of so many setbacks.

The Wyndham block in Guelph has been demolished by the Canada Trust Co. despite a hard working and broadly based committee which sought to preserve this building — even to purchase it if possible.

Port Hope struggles against the ravages of nature and the apathy of many local politicians. The Fire Hall has now been demolished but the fire damaged block is being rebuilt. The Port Hope Branch has worked without respite to encourage the restoration of the entire façade of this block and has obtained support from many sources to permit the owner to proceed with the restoration.

In Chatham, the Town Hall, dating from 1889, appears to be fated for demolition as part of a project founded by the Ontario Ministry of Housing. This is another example of the lack of inter-governmental communication and co-operation. The Ministry of Culture and the Ontario Heritage Foundation are in favour of the preservation of this robustly detailed building. Yet the Ministry of Housing is funding a massive redevelopment scheme, part of which involves the clearing of this site for — inevitably — a parking lot. Surely we can and should expect greater consideration by all Government Departments for the general objectives and specific assessments of the Ministry of Culture and Recreation.

NEWS FROM EAST TO WEST

from the Branches

PORT HOPE

On April 25, Mr. George Rust D'Eye gave a most interesting and instructive slide show on the architecture of Toronto. Buildings from the 'so-called' Scadding log cabin, Fort York, Osgoode Hall, up through the Romanesque period to the Art Deco were shown. Details of sandstone sculpture and high decorative crestings, which a casual observer would miss were also shown. Refreshments were served at the half time break.

On April 10 Mr. Pierre St. Laurent gave a slide show in the Council Chambers of the town hall. Entitled "The Architecture of Port Hope," the talk was mainly centered on the downtown core of the town. Remarkable pictures of the flood damage taken early in the morning on the day after the flood showed the high water mark on the buildings and the damage to the firehall. Buildings damaged by the flood on both sides of Walton Street were pictured.

Disastrous Fire

On the 30th of May, a building known as the Coleman and Philp Building suffered a disastrous fire. Situated on Walton Street, (the main street of the town) the building was completely gutted, wiping out six businesses. The building is in the middle of our longest block and therefore is in a key position. Due to the fact that the owner of the building only had funds enough to rebuild a two storey conventional building, the Port Hope Branch has pledged to come up with \$135,000, and the Ontario Heritage Foundation with \$75,000. These two amounts equal the short-fall between the modern two storey building and a three storey edifice with the preservation of the old façade. The old building has many interesting features including pilasters crowned with wooden capitals. When completed, this building will be a new, elevator-equipped, three storey steel frame and concrete structure backing a fully restored façade with three shop fronts circa 1879. The Ontario Heritage Foundation money will be used partly to pay for the restoration of the original façade.



THE FIRE

Photo by W. Edward Hunt

LACAC

Chairman Tom Long and his Vice-Chairman Pierre St. Laurent resigned due to conflicts with Council over the Firehall and the LACAC budget. Mel Chappel is the new Chairman and Gail Mofatt is the Vice-Chairman. Frankie Liberty is the Secretary-Treasurer. A meeting has been held with Council's Planning and Development Committee to start planning for a Heritage Conservation District.

City and town councils might take a suggestion from Ottawa's lead and thank their sometimes hard-working members of LACAC. After all, these people are voluntary workers for the town, who give hours of their time for the betterment of all. The Ottawa LACAC must receive a substantial budget from their council if they can afford to put a solid bronze plaque on every building they designate.

Ed.

Annual Picnic

The branch's annual picnic took place on Thursday, July 31st, in the Red Shed at Penryn Park. Present was a mixture of young and old as

well as members of the executive of Cobourg's newly formed Historical Society. There were about forty persons present. The announcement was made of the generous donation of the R. S. McLaughlin Foundation of \$25,000. The Branch were honoured by the presence of the Conservancy's President, Bill Moffet and Mrs. Moffet.

The Firehall

The battle for the old Firehall was lost, and the old building is gone. All that are left are memories, photographs, and some of its bricks which are being sold for mementos by the Heritage Ganaraska Foundation.



OLD FIREHALL COMING DOWN

Photo by W. Edward Hunt

Flood Damage

The branch is starting a five year campaign to assist owners of buildings on the main street which were damaged by the floods, or allowed to suffer general deterioration over the years.

Fund Raising

Because of its astronomical financial commitments, the branch is planning many fund raising activities among which is our October 4 house tour. We also approached various foundations. To date the McLean Foundation has supported us to the amount of \$25,000 and the McLaughlin Foundation to \$25,000. We are most appreciative of their generous support.

TORONTO REGION

Victorian Outing

On Saturday, June 7, the Toronto Region Branch travelled to Lake Simcoe to visit Roches Point — a one time proposed site for the capital of Upper Canada. The following are notes to accompany the outing.

When in 1877 one of Bishop Bethune's party came to the consecration of St. George's church in Georgina Township, Lake Simcoe. He left Toronto at 11:30 a.m. by the Barrie train, transferring at Belle Ewart to cross the lake by boat to Keswick, and came by carriage to Eildon Hall arriving at 5:00 p.m. By his account the trip was much more pleasant than it had been fifty years before, — and probably more enjoyable if less expeditious, than it is to-day. But the earlier stage route along a notoriously rough Yonge Street to Holland Landing and from thence by boat to the landing at Eildon Hall, troublesome though it was, had opened to the south a waterfront along which were established a string of properties and buildings some of which we are to visit to-day. Among the original or early owners was a goodly number of former naval officers, attracted no doubt by the proximity of the lake. Most were Tory in their sympathies; and there was in their minds' eye in settling here the ideal of a country estate made attractive by the prospect of the water and the accessibility of the provincial capital to the south. However much this lakefront had become a summer resort by the turn of this century, that was not the intention of those who first built here. If one meets occasionally among these early houses the vernacular of holiday architecture as we know it, it is because the later cottages built of wood and fancifully embellished by the skill of local carpenters are the last diminished evidences of a tradition stemming from the informal rural architecture begun in England in the late 18th century, brought to America and adapted to local materials by Andrew Jackson Downing in the United States, and slowly spread over the north eastern portion of English speaking North America.

Eildon Hall, home of the Sibbald family who were the reigning gentry of the district and resident since the 1830's, is the oldest of these houses. Named after the Eildon Hills of home in Scotland, the house is a somewhat casual combination of box-like additions to a core built in the 1820's by a previous owner. In proportions of Georgian solidity and colonial simplicity its homeliness

belies the pretensions of its name which speaks of the nostalgia for the landed estates of the British Isles. The church by the estate gates reminds one of the Sibbald's family's paternalism and sense of responsibility towards the community; the cemetery stones are a genealogical tree of the early families. It is a monument to the founder of the Canadian Sibbald family, Mrs. Susan Sibbald, to whose memory it was built by her children. Consecrated in 1877 it is a rather ponderous monument to a very spirited lady.

A much grander house is the nearby **The Briars**, its massive cubic structure built by Captain Bouchier in 1837. The two flanking wings were added later giving it a Palladian country house flavour common to innumerable country houses of the previous century. The coach house and the aviary in which the subsequent owner, Mr. Frank Sibbald, housed his peacocks have the precise geometry of the original structure; and the latter particularly has a grace more proper to an earlier age.

There is a world of difference between these two houses and those of the 1860's and 1870's, almost two generations later, located west along the lakefront at Roches Point. These latter are "Gothic Picturesque" consciously asymmetrical, based on an aesthetic expressed in wooden material rather than brick or stucco. The models of Eildon Hall and The Briars, however remotely, suggest England; both Lakehurst and Beechcroft have more domestic roots in a North America most often pictured in Currier and Ives prints.

Lakehurst was built about 1864 by an Englishman, a Captain May, who operated a boat service and conducted a trading business from the sturdy fieldstone building which still stands by what was formerly a public road leading to his dock. Externally, the Gothic points of windows and verandahs were once completed by the delicate fretting of barge boards, and the now stucco covered walls once board and battened into vertically textured curtains between the artfully placed windows and porches. One must extend in one's mind the elaborations of the service wing and barn which retain their original external appearance to the main house to realize what is one of the most substantial fantasies built in early Ontario. Secluded from the road by plantings, its gardens are links to the lake as a parade and vista. Internally the house is dominated by its grand central stairwell brightly lighted by a large cupola. At close range the ornamental trim of stair, doors and windows seems massive; the rooms are small and high posted with fireplaces

which make the house habitable the year around. The property has since 1895 been in the careful possession of the Matthews family of Toronto.

The neighbouring **Beechcroft** has been an Osler house for almost the same number of years, and to-day like Lakehurst is essentially a summer estate. It was built no later than the 1860's by a Rev. Mr. Stennett, once headmaster of Upper Canada College and of a family who had lived in the township since the 1830's. Mr. Stennett sold the property to Anson P. Dodge, a flamboyant financier out of Connecticut by way of New York, who improved the house and its grounds during his short residence of about three years, 1870-1873. The park-like setting is reasonably attributed to Frederick Law Olmsted (1822-1903) the outstanding American landscape designer who is responsible for Central Park, New York City; Mount Royal, Montreal; Franklin Park, Boston; the park settings for Niagara Falls and almost every outstanding public park design of the second half of the 19th century in North America. Olmsted did many private parks and gardens as well and this is one of his earliest. His models were the English natural landscape designs he had studied in the course of his travels as a young man. The gentle hints of direction provided by clumps of trees, a colorful variety of tree shapes and bushes, vaguely defined meadow-like grassy areas, and a sense of spaciousness without insistent vistas, this was probably the purpose of Beechcroft's setting. The growth and aging of trees and the loss of the original plan have left us with only suggestions of what must have been a formal setting grander indeed than the large but somewhat commonplace Beechcroft. From here Mr. Dodge oversaw his ambitious schemes for the exploitation of the lumber resources of the Georgian Bay region; it served as a setting for a New York financier temporarily resident at a point midway between the sources of his business and of his finances.

Adjacent to Beechcroft is the modestly scaled but most attractive **The Lodge**, probably built by Mr. Stennett about 1860. Rough-worked granite fieldstone and natural tree posts set a style of self-conscious primitiveness suitable to the simple life of a small cottage on the edge of a lake. It too has both its American compeers and an English ancestry. The ultimate frivolity of such simplicity is expressed by the Victorian scroll work under the eaves. Unlike the other houses, however, it is closer to the average conception of a summer cottage and many similar if not so sturdy examples of the genre can be found in southern Ontario.

The Rev. Mr. Stennett is also responsible for nearby **Christ Church**, built in 1862. Its plain rough stone exterior is pleasantly superior to the ponderous random ashlar of St. George's on the Sibbald property. The few accents of windows add a sparkle of interest to a building whose low rough walls sheltered under a steep roof impart a suitable rustic air appropriate to its rural setting. Gravestones and walls, white wood trim and belfry, picket fence and trees fuse heaven and earth, join times past and present and demonstrate a living heritage.

1980-1981 Executive

Donna Baker, President; George Rust D'Eye, 1st Vice-President; David Molesworth, 2nd Vice-President; Harry Coughy, Treasurer; Maureen Spratley, Secretary; Jean Stewart, Membership Chairman; Joan Grierson, Programme Chairman; C. Grey Barrick, Publications; Howard Levine, Programme; Herbert Stovel, Programme; Tanny Wells, Member-at-Large.

Excerpts from Eric Arthur's letter to Donna Baker re "The Beehive" at Bobcaygeon

"I have always loved the house through several ownerships . . . George Rempel refers to it in "Buildings in Wood" and mentions it as one of the few great buildings in squared dovetailed logs. The logs are huge. It was built by the Rev. James Huntley Dunsford who was the father of Lydia who married John Langton in 1845. He left the Peterborough area and came to Toronto where he became a lawyer, MLA 1851-55, Vice Chancellor of the U. of T. (1856), He presided over the University (then only U.C.) during the critical building of the College; Auditor General of Canada and Deputy Minister of Finance.

So much is known of John who died in 1894 and not anything I can find of Lydia of the Beehive. I am sure that as John's wife she must have played an important part as wife and hostess to so prominent a citizen. If I had the time, I would go to Edith Firth to find what I could.

One of the curious things about the house is that there is no dining room, and the hall must have been used like a medieval hall except that they didn't sleep in it!

How best to interest the Conservancy I leave to you. An excursion would be valuable and Geo. Rempel should be invited."



The Beehive

If you have been reading the excellent series of articles in the *Globe and Mail* by Adele Freedman on the Cormier House, Theatre Architecture and adventures at Toronto's Winter Garden, you may be interested to know that these were inspired by lectures given this year at the Annual Meeting of the Society for the Study of Architecture in Canada — Montreal, May 28 to June 2.

Donna Baker attended the five days of sessions and tours with no less than 35 speakers and two tours (one down the Richelieu Valley to Chambly, Fort Lennox, St-Mathias and St-Hilaire). The topics ranged from coast to coast: Session One began with Three Canadian Cities, Montreal, Toronto and Vancouver — architect and urban design; moved on to Quebec architecture with *Un aperçu du développement de la propriété foncière à Montréal, la carrière de Pierre Foresteier de 1760 à 1815; Westmount; and Montreal builds for a cold climate.* Theatre Architecture in Session Two was a joint session with the Association for Canadian Theatre History. An interesting item: "Salvage recording of the Capitol Theatre, Donald Street, Winnipeg," by Michael Soucy, introduced to the audience the Wild P31 Photogrammetric camera with photographic glass plates (4 x 5 inches) as the recording medium. A series of 11 stereophotographic plates were produced for future photogrammetric plotting, or whatever, if required at a later date for restoration, reconstruction or research purposes. A complete colour photographic coverage of the interior, in overview and detail was also conducted as a complementary record of the theatre. Colour photography was taken using a Nikon F2-S,

35 mm camera and a 6 cm x 17 cm Linhof Technorama camera.

Session Three was "Government in the Built Environment"; Four — Public and Commercial Architecture in Quebec to 1914. There were mini tours of Montreal and an excellent trip to the Richelieu Valley where the group picnicked at historic and remarkable Fort Lennox . . . an important site. Phyllis Lambert entertained in her studio for Heritage Montreal; there was a reception at the Archives Nationales du Québec given by the Ministry of Cultural Affairs of the Province of Quebec; A reception by Concordia University in conjunction with the exhibition "Cast Iron Architecture in Montreal"; the annual dinner at l'Institut d'hotellerie. If this all sounds great — you might want to join — for information write George Kapelos, SSAC, 95 Hazelton Ave., Toronto, Ontario M5R 2E4.

HERITAGE CAMBRIDGE



O.H.F. Director

Heritage Cambridge's Past President, Joanne Smart, was recently appointed to the board of directors of the Ontario Heritage Foundation. Joanne has been, and still is, a director of the Waterloo Regional Heritage Foundation. We are all glad to know that her interest, experience and skill in conservation matters can be used in this ever-widening sphere.

Come and Dine in Cambridge

Three splendid stone buildings in the Galt section of Cambridge are being turned into three different restaurants, all of which should open this summer. One is in the old Post Office building, one of the most interesting buildings on the riverbank. Another is on the corner of Main Street and Water Street. The third is to be in the old Dickson Mill, one of the few old mills left on the river. Heritage Cambridge is delighted to see these old buildings in use. We feel sure they will have much to offer people looking for an interesting place to dine.

Joint Meeting

In April Heritage Cambridge held its meeting in conjunction with the Annual Meeting of the Waterloo Regional Heritage Foundation. Two of our members were elected to the Board of Directors of the W.R.H.F. — Pat Rosebrugh and

Joanne Smart. At a subsequent meeting of the board Pat Rosebrugh was elected Chairman of the Foundation. Pat is a Past President and founding member of Heritage Cambridge, so we are basking in a little reflected glory. We know she will do a terrific job.

At the April meeting, after the business session, a viewing of the film "Main Street" was held. It shows many of the situations and problems of downtown revitalization which we are facing in most Canadian cities and towns, pointing the way to how cooperation can solve some of them.

Loss of the Riverbank

Cambridge is in danger of losing contact with its greatest natural advantage. In the name of flood control, the Grand River may be shut off from the city by a series of walls and earth berms seven to ten feet high through the whole downtown core area. Heritage Cambridge presented a brief to the Mayor and Council pointing out some of the weaknesses in the present scheme and asking them to consider its visual aspects, and the negative impact it would have on the life of the citizens. The Grand River Conservation Authority is backing a plan devised by Philips Engineering, the firm commissioned to study possible channel improvements, which calls for some channel excavation, but relies mainly on construction of berms and walls along the river. There has been no allowance made for even grassing over the berms or for the landscaping and maintenance which will certainly be needed. Heritage Cambridge is in favour of flood control but feels that the use of non-structural forms has not been explored, nor has there been any appreciation of the true cost of the present proposal. Our riverbank is a valuable part of our heritage and should not be irretrievably lost without a thorough study and costing of all possible alternatives.

Preston Public School

The Winter 1978 issue of HERITAGE CANADA listed, as a "Big Win" of 1977, the designation of "the long-beleagured 124 year old Preston Public School in Cambridge, Ontario . . ." Though the "big win of 1977" pronouncement was somewhat premature, the "long-beleagured" characterization was most accurate.

On Friday, July 11, 1980, the building permit for its rehabilitation was issued.

The efforts to preserve this building date back

to 1974 when the Waterloo County Board of Education announced publicly that this three-storey stone structure would be demolished to make way for two smaller schools, — one on the same central site, and one in a new subdivision. Heritage Cambridge (a branch of ACO) considered the old building worthy of preservation for several reasons:

1. The handsome two-storey plus basement stone structure is the only remaining stone school in the Preston area of Cambridge. The building developed progressively through a series of additions but the design remained consistent and unified for over a century. Worthy in its own right, the building is doubly important as a symbol of the heritage of Preston — a town which is sensitive to its loss of identity resulting from amalgamation with Galt and Hespeler into the City of Cambridge.
2. Geographically, the stone façade defines and forms the back-drop for Central Park, a green oasis of formal paths and tree patterns, the town's cenotaph and central bandstand, located right in the centre of Preston's retail area. The loss of this landmark to playground and staff parking for a small new school seemed unwarranted.
3. The recycling of this building for residential or commercial use to reinforce the Preston town centre was totally consistent with the City's master plan objectives.
4. Historically the building is related to the eminent local historical figure, Otto Klotz, prominent during the time of Edgerton Ryerson in the free school movement in Ontario. A wealth of personal letters and records has recently been made available to the community by the former Preston School Board secretary, Emma Wilkens, making the Preston school an extremely well-documented historical structure.

For these and other reasons, preservation efforts for this building were supported by residents of the area. These efforts were initiated by Heritage Cambridge and subsequently taken up by the Preston Action Committee, formed primarily of residents of Preston. Innumerable meetings held with the Board of Education, and supported variously by the Waterloo Regional Heritage Foundation, the Ontario Heritage Foundation, the ACO and Cambridge Council, failed to change their direction, and on 18 December, 1975, the Board of Education voted to enter into a contract to construct a new school and demolish the old one. The cause was deemed lost, though Heritage Cambridge launched one final appeal through the publishing of "A Reasonable Request" which was

circulated locally. It summarized the importance of the building and efforts to save it, presumably for posterity.

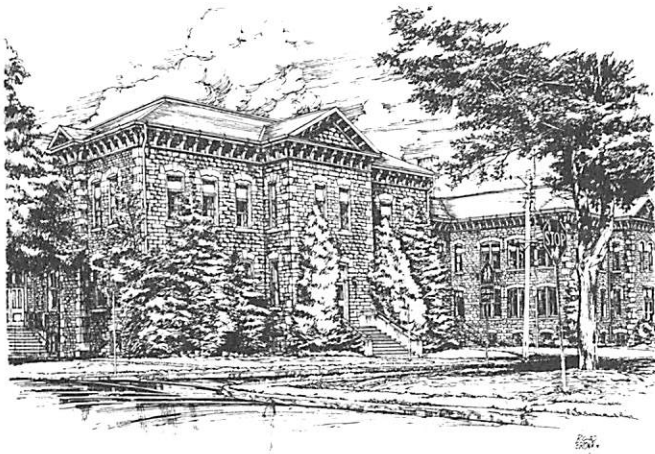
The new school was built alongside the old. But though the loss of the old building was accepted by most, the start of demolition work was arrested as a result of an injunction registered by a group of Preston citizens, headed by lifelong resident Helen Bridle. The School Board has failed to obtain a demolition permit. What followed would require more space than a brief article to describe, but could be summarized as follows:

- The Cambridge LACAC recommended to Council the designation of the old building.
- Cambridge Council enacted the designation bylaw.
- The Waterloo County Board of Education opposed this designation.
- A provincial hearing ensued, and Council's decision to designate the school building was confirmed.

Cambridge Council then established an ad hoc committee to find alternative uses for the building, and these efforts were strongly supported through the participation of George Kapelos and Cathy Smale of the Ontario Heritage Foundation and by grants of \$5,000 each from the Ontario Heritage Foundation and the Waterloo Regional Heritage Foundation to underwrite a structural analysis of the building and prepare documentation which would assist prospective purchasers to evaluate it. This investigative work was undertaken and some interest was registered, but the pressure of time called for an immediate offer to purchase, and it's fair to say that there was no line-up of entrepreneurs ready to commit unconditionally to the purchase of the property.

At this point Mark/Musselman/McIntyre/Combe Architects became involved, where angels had feared to tread, by making an offer on the building. They had obtained the agreement in principle from a London based company, experienced in operating facilities for seniors, to enter into a long term lease of the property after it had been rehabilitated. The plan was to purchase and rehabilitate the facility on the strength of the lease of the operating company.

Cambridge Council endorsed this plan, and an offer was made to the Board of Education. The Board rejected this offer, but adopted a resolution that it would be prepared to release the old school property to any organization that would offer to exchange an equivalent area of land, contiguous with the existing school playground, on which playground expansion and staff parking could be accommodated. The challenge was formidable,



since the school occupied the entire block and the surrounding area consisted of built-up residential properties.

In retrospect, successfully meeting the terms of that resolution was most unlikely. But it was done. Through the goodwill of the City, one street was closed and part of another was transferred to the Board for playground expansion. The owners of three residential properties agreed to sell voluntarily, — though under the glare of newspaper publicity, the task was made difficult and fair values were not easy to negotiate. In the final arrangements, the architect obtained agreements to sell from the three owners, the City agreed to street closure, the cost of the exchange properties was met by the amount of the original offer to the Board for the purchase of the property, supplemented by a \$75,000 grant from the City of Cambridge. This grant was justified in the minds of Cambridge councillors by the fact that net tax revenues from a previously tax exempt property would repay this money in only a few years; and future tax revenues, planning objectives, and preservation objectives would all be net benefits to the community.

What followed was substantially according to plan, but with a few detours. By the time interest rates increased five percentage points last fall the London firm withdrew, since market studies showed that the resulting increase in monthly rent of \$100-plus was too high for the community to sustain; and a year's delay was suggested. The substantial carrying costs for the architects of almost \$200,000 for land acquisition and fee obligations made this suggestion difficult, and this led to the contract of another client, Fairview Mennonite Homes, who agreed to own and operate the facility.

The involvement of Fairview Mennonite Homes will provide the City with the best of all worlds. —

1. Fairview Mennonite Homes Inc. has a record of providing quality housing for seniors in Cambridge for over 30 years. A measure of the standard of their operation may be seen by the fact that a recent project which provided 126 apartment units for independent living, has been fully occupied and a waiting list of over 200 applicants presently exists. It would appear that the Preston School facility will be occupied fully as soon as it is completed.
2. Fairview Homes presently operates an Activity Centre for senior citizens of the community, which includes a therapy pool, auditorium, bowling lanes, lounge, dining room, craft rooms, variety store, etc. which serves both the current residents and those of the community beyond. This facility will be available to residents of the Preston School apartments.
3. Fairview Homes Inc. is a charitable non-profit organization and as such has access to more favourable mortgage financing terms than a private profit oriented company. This has meant that residents will be charged lower rents than otherwise would be possible.
4. In recognition of the City's contribution toward the preservation of this building Fairview has agreed to waive grants and tax exemptions for which it might otherwise be eligible. Thus the City's planning objectives, heritage objectives and social objectives will all be met, and its initial contribution will be recovered in a very short period of time, and taxes thereafter will be a net benefit for the city.

Our experience with this project has cautioned us against celebrating prematurely. But if all goes well from here on, we hope to have a project in the spring of 1981 which will vindicate all the efforts and arguments of the supporters of the Preston School. — And perhaps make our next local effort to preserve an important building just that much easier.

If that happens, it will be a tribute to all those who have persevered over the past six years, — the Preston residents of the Action Committee, the women who picketed against demolition of the school, Helen Bridle who initiated the injunction against demolition, Mayor Claudette Millar and the supportive members of Cambridge Council, the Cambridge LACAC, Chairman Ken McLaughlin and other members of the Waterloo Regional Heritage Foundation, the Ontario Heritage Foundation, George Kapelos, Cathy Smale, Peter Stokes, Tessie Jew and Manager Les Williams of the local CMHC office, which supported this project at a time when the rehabilitation and recycling of old buildings was not com-

monly supported in our area, and all the members of Heritage Cambridge. Though a cliché, — it has been a team effort.

G. Musselman: 14 July/80

Heritage Cambridge Editor's Note:

The team effort could never have succeeded without the dedicated and vigorous work of Gerry Musselman of Mark/Musselman/McIntyre/Combe/Architects. His plans for the rehabilitation of the building will ensure that its heritage features will be respected and enhanced.

BRANT COUNTY

Awards

The practice of presenting awards has proven helpful for the home-owners, church officials and business operators to whom awards have been given. Not only have they been encouraged in their restoration and recycling efforts, but the community has been forced to recognize the importance of these efforts through pictorial publicity in the "Brantford Expositor." Before we began giving awards the branch had difficulty gaining coverage in the publicity department.

This season awards have been presented to Hankinson Seeds (Commercial: this property has been slated to be torn down for the new downtown development. Its interior 19th century fittings and moulded tin ceiling are still intact): Grace Anglican Church, St. Basil's Roman Catholic Church, Zion United Church, and 85 Charlotte, the home of Dr. and Mrs. E. Hobson, locale of the May 24 Heritage Tea.

All the churches named have hosted tours for the Conservancy. These tours are well attended by people interested in both architecture and Christian symbolism. They are all in the Gothic Revival style, with adaptations suiting the various denominations.

Restorations

The Branch has set up a helping service for property owners wishing advice on upgrading older structures. Not only is this service helpful to the owners, but Conservancy members are learning a good deal about restorations as well.

Area Concerns

Brantford continues to struggle with both the downtown redevelopment and the Grand River Avenue Closing problems. A private members' bill to dispense with the OMB hearing in regard to the former problem was defeated in the Ontario Legislature in May. The new developer is following

the city's lead of "do nothing" in regard to the threatened heritage structures in the area. Representatives from the Conservancy met with the local LACAC and city representatives in regard to the issue. The latter felt the buildings in question were "quaintly interesting." The citizens' group fighting their case to preserve the Dufferin area lost to three Supreme Court judges who ruled that the city's decision was legal, though the tribunal method used to close the street was not. Because of delays in the court action the citizens' group faces legal costs of about \$1,000.00.

Workshops

The winter-spring 1980 season began for the Brant County branch with a Workshop on Windows. The workshops were begun by the branch the year before to provide a more intensive learning experience than is given at either the tours or the general meetings. Small numbers enable the instructor or resource people to communicate on an individual basis. Mr. Garry Burns showed slides of various types of buildings and outlined the types and styles of windows which went with each style. Violet Fair's slides of windows in Brantford completed a very interesting and informative workshop.

Myrtleville Visit

A visit to the Canada Heritage Property at Myrtleville constituted the Branch workshop for March. Mr. Good, great-great grandson of the founder of the estate, led the assembly through the house and grounds. At one time there were four barns, while three houses still exist — the Georgian farmhouse built in 1837, a Victorian farmhouse added to the rear twenty years later, and a 1915 duplex built to the east of the other buildings.

The main farmhouse has been under restoration since 1967. The Good family did much of the labour, along with Rod McFadden, the Conservancy's other guide, and with the guidance of Peter John Stokes.

The exterior of the house is of mustard-coloured clapboard, with five bays and an imposing door with side lights and transom. Interior furnishings of note include a corner cupboard and sideboard in the dining room, rope-spring bed and beautifully-worked counter-panes. The original kitchen has been restored with its cooking-fireplace and crane. Many old tools and farm implements can be found in the forge-workshop. A visit enjoyed by all.

The May workshop took a different form, with a small group meeting to draw one of the older

homes on Dufferin Avenue. Examples of professional drawings, plus the ones just done in charcoal, were then analyzed to explain perspective, composition, design, method and media. Audrey Scott was the resource person.

Heritage Tea

The second Heritage Tea was held on May 24 at 85 Charlotte Street, the former 'Candy Pater-son' home. Guides told visitors about house details such as exterior brackets and rounded windows, interior moulded plaster ceiling medallions and cornice, elaborate mantle with glazed tiles, side-board and entrance mirror. Of special note is the restoration work effected by the present owners, Dr. and Mrs. E. Hobson. Original style bathroom fixtures have been installed, mouldings and base-boards repaired and floors re-established.

The tea, convened by Gladys Allen, was a recreational and educational experience for all. Brantford Heritage Committee slides were shown

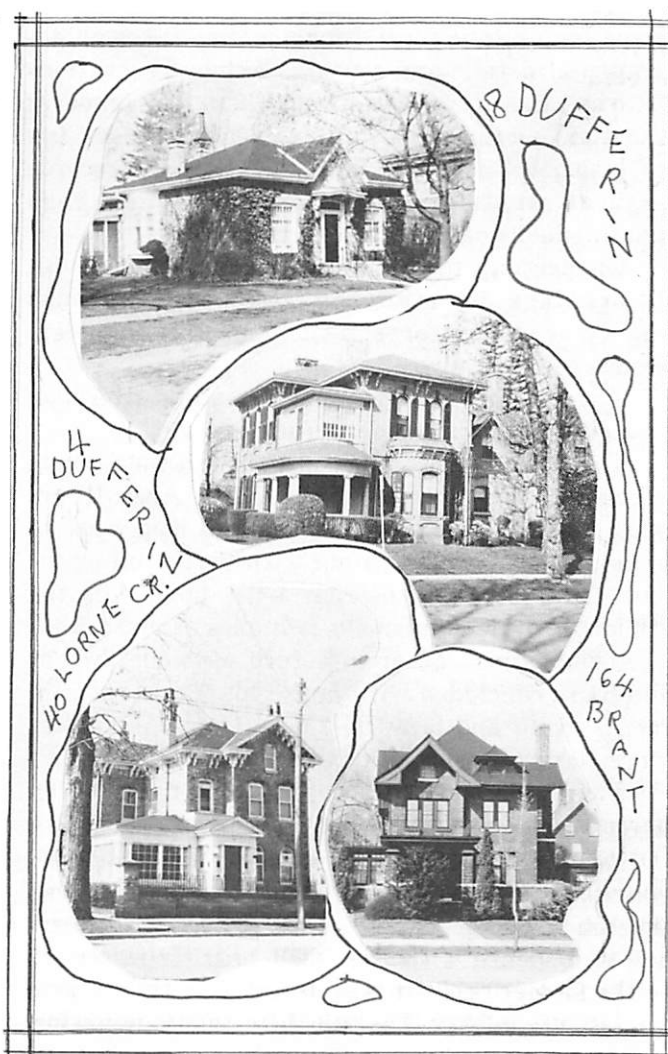
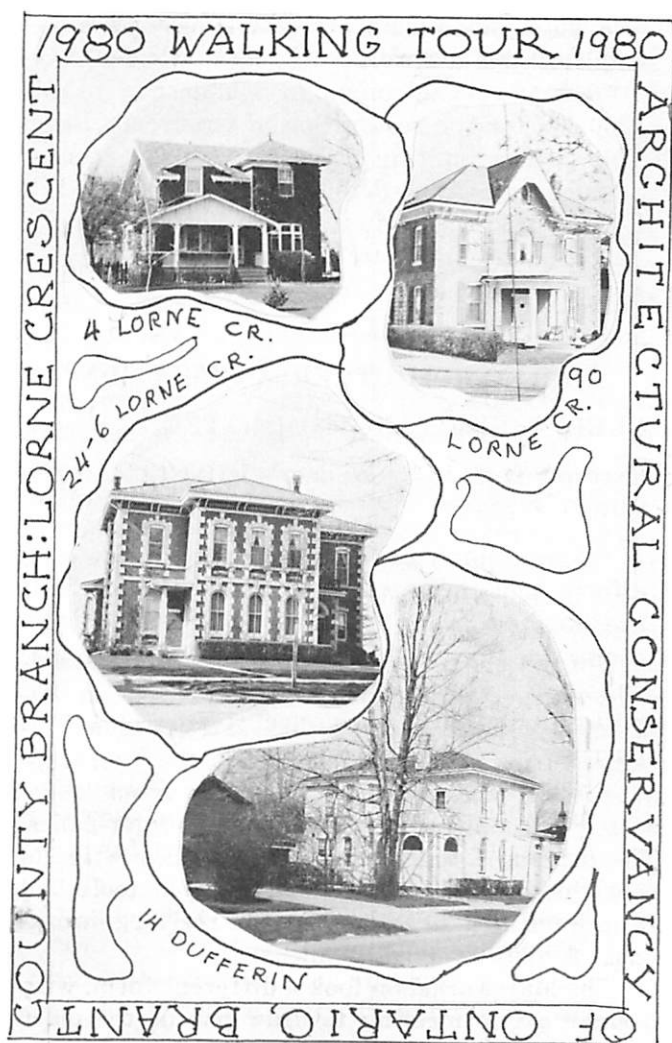
and a Residential Award presented to the Hobson Family.

General Meeting

The Brantford Heritage Committee Slides were the feature of the Branch Spring General meeting in March.

"Out of Obscurity" is a slide-tape show about Brantford. It illustrates, through photographs of buildings, how the Brantford scene illustrates a variety of FEELINGS, MATERIALS and Archi-tectural STYLES. Much of the presentation deals with older structures of all sizes, "Cottages to Castles." A number of styles of church exteriors are depicted. Public buildings of various types are discussed, as are several distinguished monu-ments.

The presentation is named from the final sec-tion which examines the work of John Turner, 19th century Brantford architect. Despite works in a variety of styles of undisputed excellence, John Turner remains obscure. An appeal is made



to recognize this artist and to bring the city where he worked "Out of Obscurity."

Slides and tape cassettes may be borrowed from Brantford Heritage Committee, City Hall, 100 Wellington, Brantford.

"The Artist Looks at Architecture" was the title of a workshop held June 7 at Glenhyrst in Brantford. Robin B. Lewis conducted the workshop.

Robin's academic background (M.A. in Scottish studies, University of Guelph) is offset by a creative household where she learned to draw and paint as easily as she learned to walk. The members of her family now teach at B.C.I. night school. She has taught at Fanshawe College and acts as her own agent in mounting shows of her own work.

Miss Lewis had recently been to England in the Exeter area. She mentioned the "ley" lines across the country where strong electrical energy currents in pagan times were taken over by the Christians as sites (along the lines) for Cathedrals. She mentioned the benefits of belonging to the National Trust of England or Scotland.

Robin explained some of her methods in constructing architectural drawings. She takes photographs of details and by painstaking observations "learns" the accurate details. Then she composes the final picture. She prefers sepia to black ink (Winsor Newton). She keeps her files and records as, to an artist, these are often of more value than the finished work.

On her trip to England she could manage 10-12 drawings per afternoon. Her pencil drawings can be sketches for a larger work or complete essays in themselves.

A very informative and interesting afternoon was enjoyed by the small group present.

The 1979-80 season concluded with the Canada Week walking tours of the Dufferin Area. Tours were held on three evenings of the last week of June and attracted a group with varied interests. The Dufferin area is rich with homes in the Italianate style and boasts examples of most other Victorian styles of architecture as well. Two of the tours concluded with house tours and refreshments at 40 and later 50 Lorne Crescent. Guides were Garry Burns, Don Pettitt and Mike Keefe.

The Dufferin Terrace area is presently threatened by increased traffic because of a bottle-neck street closing at the Lorne Bridge. Buildings of note and for which we are concerned include 4 Lorne Crescent, 90 Lorne Crescent, 24-6 Lorne Crescent, 14 Dufferin, 18 Dufferin, 40 Lorne Crescent and 164 Brant.

The branch looks forward to a September bus

tour to Elora and invites participation by other branches.

Audrey G. Scott

NORTH WATERLOO REGION

This new branch got off to an enthusiastic start in January. The president is Jeff Weller, vice-president: Bob Rowell, treasurer: Chris Moore, secretary: Peggy Booker. In February Mr. Terry Marklewitz presented his firm's feasibility study on the preservation of the old Waterloo County Jail and Warden's House. Large buttons inscribed with "Save the Jail" are worn by members.



LONDON REGION

This branch held its seventh annual walking tour on June 1st.

At the February meeting, Mr. William Hitchins, a member of the London Region executive, entertained members with slides of architecture from his travels.

A fund-raising campaign is underway to raise \$200,000 for the restoration of Grosvenor Lodge. This house, built in 1853 for London pioneers Samuel and Ann Peters, is now operated by London Historical Museums as the London History Centre. It is architecturally the finest of London's old country mansions.

NEWS FROM OTHER ASSOCIATIONS

GUELPH HERITAGE COMMITTEE

Excerpts from Sally Wismer's letter to ACORN'S editor

"The committee met recently to assess its efforts, and there was unanimous agreement on the ongoing need for a broadly-based citizens' committee that was committed to heritage preservation. Therefore, the Guelph Heritage Committee will continue to meet regularly for the purpose of:

1. Educating the local community with respect to its heritage — with the goal of developing a large body of committed support for preservation of significant buildings;
2. Ensuring early, adequate public input on designation/demolition matters — in order to avoid the corporate and political entrenchment that was experienced with the Canada Trust

issue.

In conclusion, I should like to express the Heritage Committee's appreciation to the Architectural Conservancy for the support that you have given us over the past months. We refer in particular to the personal appearances here by several of your people, as well as to the excellent article by Kent Rawson in the April 1980 issue of ACORN."

SOCIETY FOR THE STUDY OF ARCHITECTURE IN CANADA in conjunction with the SOCIETY OF ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIANS

Call for Papers

In 1981, the Society for the Study of Architecture in Canada will be meeting jointly with the Society of Architectural Historians at the Empress Hotel, Victoria, B.C., 1 - 5 April, 1981. Both the SAH and SSAC will be organizing sessions. There will be one registration which will permit participants from either SSAC or SAH to attend all events.

The SAH is organizing the following sessions:

General Session

(Chair: Naomi Miller, Boston University, c/o SAH Office, 1700 Walnut St., Suite 716, Philadelphia, PA 19103 until June 1; 9 Bowdoin Street, Cambridge, MA 02138 after June 1)

Architecture of the Pacific Northwest

(Chair: Marion Dean Ross, University of Oregon, Department of Art History, Eugene, OR 97403)

Landscape Architecture on the West Coast and Related Subjects

(Chair: David C. Streatfield, Department of Landscape Architecture, University of Washington, Seattle, WA 98105)

Medieval Architecture

(Chair: Walter C. Leedy, Art Department, Cleveland State University, Cleveland, OH 44115)

Renaissance Urbanism

(Chair: David Friedman, Massachusetts Institute of Technology)

Architecture and Preservation in Canada

(Chair: Harold D. Kalman, 46 Elgin St., Suite 19, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada K1P 5K6)

19th Century Decorative Arts

(Chair: William Ezelle Jones, Los Angeles County Museum of Art, 5905 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90036)

Housing

(Chair: Eugenie L. Birch, 101 East 72nd Street, New York, NY 10021)

Architecture of the Inter-Mountain West

(Chair: J. M. Neil, Office of Urban Conservation, City of Seattle, 400 Yesler Building, Seattle, WA 98104)

Architectural Drawings and Models in the 17th Century

(Chair: Henry Millon, CASVA, National Gallery of Art, Washington, DC 20565)

Cemeteries, Mausolea and Funerary Art

(Chair: Kenneth L. Ames, Winterthur Museum, Winterthur, DE 19735)

Geomancy: Asian Architecture and its Relation to the Land

(Chair: Nelson Wu, Washington University, Department of Art and Archaeology, St. Louis, MO 63130)

Recent Trends in Architecture: Theories and Practices

(Chair: Warren Sanderson, Graduate Division of Fine Arts, Concordia University, 1455 de Maisonneuve Blvd., West, Montreal, Quebec, Canada H3G 1M8)

Architectural History in Preservation Education

(Chair: Chester Liebs, Department of History, University of Vermont, Burlington, VT 05405 and Margaret Supplee Smith, Department of Art, Wake Forest University, Winston, Salem, NC 27109)

SSAC members who wish to present papers in the above sessions should contact SAH, 1700 Walnut St., Suite 716, Philadelphia, PA 19103.

The SSAC will be organizing the following sessions:

"Canadian" Architecture — Myth or Reality

(Chair: Christina Cameron, Parks Canada, Ottawa)

The Practice of Architecture in Canada

(Chair: Michael McMordie, University of Calgary)

Art in Architecture in Canada

(Chair: George Kapelos, Ontario Ministry of Culture and Recreation, Toronto).

SSAC members who wish to present papers in the above sessions should contact: SSAC, Box 2935, Station D, Ottawa, Ontario K1P 5W9

In addition to the sessions, a number of receptions and tours are planned. The annual business of the SSAC will occur on Friday, 3 April, 1981.

SSAC Meeting Chairman: to be announced.

SSAC Local Chairman: Martin Segger, University of Victoria.

THE HERITAGE GANARASKA FOUNDATION

This new group was organized as a public, charitable, non-profit foundation in February, with Barry Hayes as its first chairman.

Its aims are to preserve and maintain cultural heritage by providing the general public with educational opportunities in the area of heritage and cultural affairs. To this end, Penryn Park was rented and noon hour recitals, including light lunches provided by different Port Hope restaurants were offered. The price of the lunch also included a tour of the various exhibits. The recitals included such artists as pianists, sopranos, violinists, folk singers, guitarists, and Scottish dancers.

The museum exhibitions so far have included the early art of Signor Farini, the East Durham Historical Society bottle collection, the Layne collection of old cameras, and the Reed key collection. In the salon was displayed the work by competition winners in the Festival of Canadian Heroes, poetry, prose, pictorial work, and sculpture on heroes selected by children.

Metal and wood sculptures by Hart Massey, and works in stitchery and appliqué by Melodie Massey were shown, and Studio Six and Gifts of Nature showed drawings, batiks, tie-dying, stitchery and pottery. Port Hope Invitational Society of Photographers showed their works. Paintings in watercolours and acrylic were hung by Thelma Van Alstyne, and John de Jong showed his pieces of stained glass. Yoshiko and Walter Sunahara showed their ceramic abstract sculptures and paintings.

Courses throughout the summer and fall include lectures on Music in Canada, Appreciating Canadian Art, Ballroom dancing, Dancing classes for Boys, Photography for Adolescents, Victorian Pastimes and Skills with Modern Applications. Also expected are the Evening Salon Concerts, bronze and wood sculptures by Mary Hecht of Toronto, art from members of the Port Hope District Art Guild, the Art Collection of the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops, a workshop in the method of making a hammock, a work shop in the techniques of stained glass, and royal medals and postcards.

This is an amazing accomplishment considering how many people have been involved whether artists, viewers, or volunteers, and all done before the fund raising campaign has started: the group awaits its tax credit number from the government, when it can begin to collect money to buy and restore one of Port Hope's heritage buildings.

HERITAGE OTTAWA

Annual General Meeting

With more than 60 people in attendance the Annual General Meeting on May 27th was a considerable success.

In his opening remarks, President John Leaning reported that Heritage Ottawa consists of 453 members, a 15% increase over 1978, and 18 members of the Board of Directors.

Three certificates of Merit were awarded: to St. John's Ambulance Brigade for the restoration of 312 Laurier Avenue; to Mr. George Wilkes for his restoration of 112 Daly Avenue; and to Mr. Clifford Ham, Heritage Planner for the City of Ottawa, for his contribution towards the preservation of our heritage.

ONTARIO ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Seventh Annual Symposium

The Archaeology of the Lake Erie Basin is to take place in London, Ontario, on October 25-26. Contact Ontario Archaeological Society, 55 Centre Street, London, Ontario N6J 1T4.

SOCIETY FOR THE STUDY OF ARCHITECTURE IN CANADA

This photo was sent to us by George Kapelos. The group were on a tour of the Richelieu Valley following the 1980 SSAC meeting in Montreal. The picture shows them visiting the Anglican Church in Chambly.



HERITAGE CANADA (JOHN GALT COUNCIL) AND DUFFERIN COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The two above associations held a heritage seminar on "Mainstreet Revitalization" on April 25 and 26. The seminar included a presentation by Hon. C. Bennett, Minister of Housing, Province of Ontario, presentations by Municipal Representatives, Businessmen and Ministry of Housing on the Mainstreet Revitalization Programme, and a presentation by Jim Knight, Director Heritage Canada on "Heritage Canada's Involvement with Mainstreet Revitalization." On April 26, at the Millcroft Inn, Alton, Tony Horton, an architect, gave a talk on Elmira Brox Old Towne Village. The luncheon speaker was Bert Lawrence, Past Chairman, Ontario Heritage Foundation. Mrs. C. Smale, Director Heritage Canada, and Jim Grogan, developer, also spoke.

AROUND AND ABOUT: Happenings in Ontario

MILTON

The Ontario Agricultural Museum opened its gates for the 1980 season on May 12th. The museum featured the work of Dorothy Clark McClure in the gallery of the main Administrative Building. "Rural Life in Ontario" was the theme of the exhibition which included country landscapes and barns in sepia and watercolour.

PAISLEY

Although it has been saved from demolition, this town's oldest building may have to be sold again. The structure, which once housed Paisley's first post office, was "lost" for 70 years and discovered again last fall only by accident while it was being demolished. Because of a lack of heritage money the public opposition to heritage sentiment, the building could be lost as a publicly-owned historical treasure.

Until last fall everyone knew that the "Jack Parker house" on Albert Street was old, but nobody seemed to know just how old. At that point the owner of the property, Ralph Karlson, sold the lot to Gregg Building Supplies for company expansion, and agreed to demolish the building. Removal of several layers of old siding and the building's roof, laid bare the old house's "bones."

One of the original boards had a pencilled inscription, "Paisley 1859". The building caught the eye of Bob Johnson, a Paisley carpenter and millwright whose main occupation is the restoration of old buildings. He noticed that the building was of plank and timber construction which dated it as to its age, so he bought it. Johnson is one of three members of the Paisley and District Historical Foundation who put up the money for the building. The building has now been turned over to the historical foundation. It will have to be moved unless somebody comes up with some rescue money.

WARKWORTH

A new group known as the Warkworth Improvement Committee has been formed to draw up a plan to revitalize the town. Warkworth has some interesting architecture in its buildings on the main street and also scattered throughout the town. It was suggested to the group that they write the Conservancy re advice from the Advisory Board.

WINDSOR



The first phase of the restoration of Assumption Church in Windsor has been completed under the direction of Howard D. Chapman and Howard V. Walker, Architects, Peter John Stokes, Con-

sulting Restoration Architect.

The photograph shows the scaffold shroud to the building to allow the repair and repointing of masonry. Rewiring, and insulation of the roof space have been finished.

PJS

Advertisement in recent edition of supplement to national newspaper under the heading of Houses to Let Unfurnished:

"Century brick farm house, Sterling area. Completely restored. Gutted, insulated, rewalled, new washrooms. New Kitchen. Built-in oven & stove top (no other appliances) \$350.-----".

Ed. note: somewhere the wires have been crossed? Or some leprechaun wrote the copy? Sterling area indeed! as a restoration hardly worth a nickle for the plate, but then what can you get for \$350 these days?

PJS

We received no copy from Robert Allan, editor for Hamilton-Niagara, or from Grace Hussey, editor for Huron County. News from these areas is too important for us to miss. Will these two editors please contact us at the Annual General Meeting?



We are receiving requests by mail for copies of ACORN, and also requests to be put on our subscription list. These letters have been answered stating that ACORN is not for sale and suggesting that the writers join the nearest ACO branch and receive three copies a year.



We are always glad to receive pictures which accompany articles. If you wish these pictures returned, please send a stamped, addressed envelope.
Ed.

Please send any change of address to your branch secretary and also to Mrs. Margaret Wulff, A.C.O., 191 College Street, Toronto, M5T 1P7. In this way it can be put on the master mailing list.

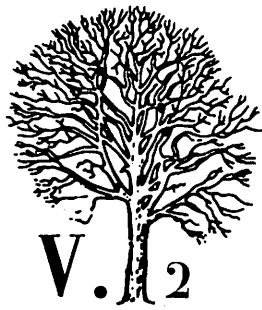
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